BRITISH COLUMBIA

BC STATS

Service BC
Ministry of Labour & Citizens' Services

Infoline

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Issue: 07-01

January 5th, 2007

- **BC's unemployment rate at 5.2% in December**
- **Employment up in both goods and service sectors**
- **BC's life expectancy highest in Canada in 2004**

Labour Force

- **British Columbia's unemployment rate inched up to 5.2% (*seasonally adjusted*) in December, as a 0.4% increase in the number of jobs (or +9,900) was offset by a 0.8% jump (or +18,400) in the number of people who were either working or looking for work.** The province's participation rate remained stable in the last month of 2006, with 66.2% of the working age population (15 and older) in the labour force.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

- **Employment in the goods sector stepped up 1.0% with the number of jobs increasing in three major industries.** Employment in construction (+2.5%) and agriculture (+1.1%) continued to expand, while the number of jobs in manufacturing (+2.0%) increased for the fourth consecutive month. At the same time, there were fewer jobs in utilities (-5.1%) and other primary industries (forestry, fishing & mining) took on 7.5% fewer workers.

  The service sector, which employs eight out of every ten workers in the province, recorded a more moderate increase in employment (+0.3%) as job growth in some industries was offset by declines in others. Employment in public administration slipped 4.8% and there were fewer jobs in wholesale & retail trade (-1.6%) and accommodation, food & beverage service (-1.4%). However, education (+1.8%) and health & social services (+4.4%) took on significantly more workers.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

- **More men (+0.5%) and more women (+0.5%) had jobs in December.** Overall employment inched down in the private sector (-0.2%), but was up in the public sector (+0.4%). At the same time, the ranks of self-employed British Columbians increased (+2.6%), recovering from a 1.6% slip in November. Full-time employment was 1.2% higher, while the number of people with part-time jobs slipped (-2.4%).

  Young people looking for work continued to face more difficulties than in the other months of 2006. The unemployment rate for young people (aged 18-24) climbed to 9.7% in December, nearly double the rate for adults aged 25 and over (4.4%) who are seeking work. However, despite the recent increases, the youth unemployment rate remained well below historic levels.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

- **Among the regions, jobless rates ranged from 4.1% (*3-month moving average*) in Mainland/Southwest to 7.3% in Kootenay.** Unemployment rates were up in all regions except Cariboo (5.5%), North Coast & Nechako (6.2%) and Mainland/Southwest, where jobless rates were unchanged from November.

  Kamloops (3.3%) and Kelowna (3.8%) both recorded comparatively low jobless rates in December. In Vancouver, the unemployment rate was the same as the previous month (4.0%). However, Victoria saw a 0.5 percentage point decrease (to 3.4%). Abbotsford, BC's third census metropolitan area, had an unemployment rate of 4.1% in December.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada & BC Stats

- **The Canadian unemployment rate was 6.1% (*seasonally adjusted*) in December, down 0.2 percentage points from November.** Jobless rates were lower in the provinces west of Quebec, ranging from 3.3% in Alberta to 6.1% in Ontario. On the other side of the country, Newfoundland (13.8%) and Prince Edward Island (12.4%) had the highest rates.

Report Municipal Population Estimates, 2006

Did you know...
Most Canadians (76%) look back upon the year 2006 as a "good year overall" in comparison to years past, but one in five (21%), feel 2006 was a "bad year overall". *Source: Ipsos Reid*

The improvement in the Canadian jobless rate was largely due to employment growth (+0.4%), much of which occurred in the west. The labour force grew at half the pace (+0.2%). *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

Life Expectancy & Mortality

- **In 2004, BC residents boasted a life expectancy of 80.9 years, the highest in the country.** At 83.1 years, life expectancy for women in the province remained slightly higher than that of men (78.7), though the gap has narrowed in recent years. Ontario (80.6) and Alberta (80.2) were the only other provinces with life expectancy rates higher than the national average (80.2). Between 1979 and 2004, life expectancy at birth in Canada increased 5.3 years from 74.9 to 80.2.

There were 29,923 deaths in BC in 2004, up slightly from 2003 (29,320). The total mortality rate in the province (the number of deaths per 1,000 population) was 7.1 in 2004, on par with the Canadian average. Male British Columbians (7.3) had a slightly higher mortality rate than their female counterparts (6.9). Alberta (5.8) and Ontario (6.7) were the only provinces with overall mortality rates comparatively lower than other provinces and below the national average (7.1). The highest rates were found in PEI and Saskatchewan (both 8.9).

At 4.3 in 2004, BC, along with PEI and New Brunswick, recorded the lowest infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 children under the age of 1 year) in the country, a full decimal below the rate for Canada as a whole (5.3). Manitoba (7.0) and Saskatchewan (6.2) recorded the highest rates of infant death among the provinces. *Data Source: S.C. Cat. # 84F0211XIVE*

Lottery and Gambling

In the 2005/2006 fiscal year, there were approximately 4,400 lottery retailers in the province. British Columbians claimed $70 million in lottery prizes including 13 wins of $2 million or more. There were 17 casinos in the province, housing 7,366 slot machines. The British Columbia Lottery Corporation employed the equivalent of 575 full-time employees over the last fiscal year and took in total revenues of nearly $2.3 billion. The largest jackpot won in BC history was recorded in 2005/2006 ($24.6 million) and on a national front, the highest pay-out was $54.3 million in the same year. *Data Source: British Columbia Lottery Corporation*

The Nation

- **Canadian manufacturers' prices were 1.9% higher in November 2006 than in the same month of 2005.** Primary metal products continued to have a strong influence on the 12-month change, rising 26.4% from November of 2005, down slightly from October's increase of 31.8%. Pulp & paper (+5.0%) and fruit, vegetable & feed (+2.5%) products also contributed to the climb in manufacturers' prices. On the other hand, prices for other major commodity groups such as lumber & other wood (-5.5%), petroleum & coal (-5.4%), chemicals (-2.9%) and motor vehicles & other transport equipment (-2.6%) were less than in the same month a year prior.

Prices for raw materials jumped 4.6% in November compared to the same month of 2005, driven mainly by a 73.6% jump in the price of non-ferrous metals. The falling price of crude oil (-11.2%) was a large cooling factor in the year-over-year increase in the Raw Materials Price Index (RMPI). Excluding mineral fuels, the RMPI increased 23.2% over November of 2005.

BC softwood lumber prices continued to drop (-1.5%) as producers of both Coastal (-4.7%) and Interior (-1.7%) lumber received less for their products than in November 2005.

The appreciation of the Canadian dollar also muted the increase in producer prices. Excluding the impact of the exchange rate, producer prices would have risen 3.0% instead of only 1.9%, as actually recorded. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

***Infoline** Issue: 07-01*
January 5th, 2007

For data originating from Statistics Canada, data sourced to 'Statistics Canada' has been retrieved from CANSIM, the agency's electronic database, otherwise the source is identified as 'SC' plus the catalogue number.

Infoline Report

Issue: 07-01
Jan. 05, 2007

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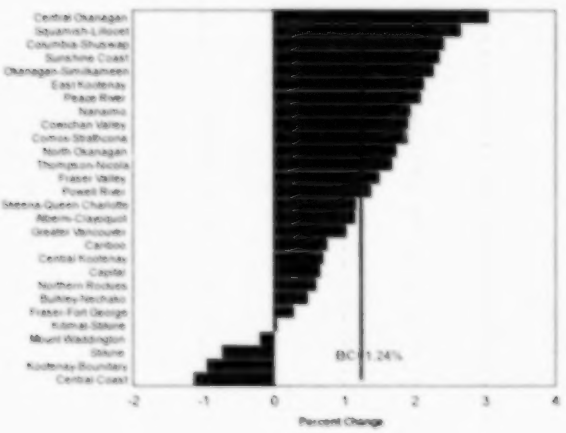
Originally published in *Business Indicators* Issue 06-12. Annual Subscription $60 +GST

Municipal Population Estimates, 2006

The Province

Between July 1st 2005 and June 30th 2006 British Columbia's population grew by 1.24 per cent. This resulted in an increase of 52,619 individuals from the 2005 population of 4,257,833 to an end of period population level of 4,310,452 persons. This growth rate was above the Canada figure of 1.0 per cent. Over the same period Alberta had the highest growth rate of 2.99 per cent, followed by Nunavut at 2.47 per cent. BC's growth rate was higher than that of Ontario (1.02%) for this 2005 -2006 period.

The majority of the population growth for British Columbia was a result of strong international immigration. Between July 1st 2005 and July 1st 2006 BC received 37,942 individuals through net international migration. BC gained a further 10,898 persons through natural increases in population (40,926 births minus 30,028 deaths). Finally, net interprovincial migration accounted for an increase of 3,779 individuals.



Regional Districts

Twenty-four of British Columbia's regional districts showed positive population growth between 2005 and 2006. Central Okanagan had the highest growth rate over this period at 3.04 per cent, gaining a total of 5,109 individuals. Greater Vancouver had the highest gains in absolute terms as 22,308 more individuals called this Regional District home over this period.

Regional District	%Change	Growth	2006 Pop
Greater Vancouver	1.02	22,038	2,180,737
Capital	0.65	2,285	353,710
Fraser Valley	1.49	3,956	268,972
Central Okanagan	3.04	5,109	173,026
Nanaimo	1.93	2,729	143,791
Thompson-Nicola	1.67	2,156	130,933
Comox-Strathcona	1.90	1,999	107,312
Fraser-Fort George	0.28	280	101,881
Okanagan-Similkameen	2.26	1,878	84,914
North Okanagan	1.73	1,395	81,888
Cowichan Valley	1.91	1,502	80,295
Cariboo	0.75	528	70,849
Peace River	2.08	1,311	64,272
East Kootenay	2.13	1,315	63,169
Central Kootenay	0.69	418	60,651
Columbia-Shuswap	2.41	1,282	54,520
Bulkley-Nechako	0.47	207	44,147
Kitimat-Stikine	0.03	15	42,927
Squamish-Lillooet	2.65	975	37,750
Alberni-Clayoquot	1.15	375	33,063
Kootenay-Boundary	-0.94	-313	32,864
Sunshine Coast	2.34	670	29,262
Skeena-Queen Charlotte	1.16	260	22,722
Powell River	1.38	290	21,364
Mount Waddington	-0.19	-26	13,562
Northern Rockies	0.59	39	6,644
Central Coast	-1.13	-44	3,860
Stikine	-0.73	-10	1,367
British Columbia	**1.24**	**52,619**	**4,310,452**

Fourteen regional districts had higher population growth than BC, including three of the top five most populated areas. Greater Vancouver and the Capital regional districts had below average growth rates, but accounted for the largest absolute increase in population. Fraser Valley, Central Okanagan and Nanaimo, the third

through fifth most populated regions, had above BC average growth rates.

Only four regional districts showed negative population growth between 2005 and 2006. Central Coast showed the highest percentage drop in their population at -1.13 per cent growth. This resulted in an outflow of 44 people from this area. Kootenay-Boundary Regional District had the highest absolute drop in population of 313 persons. Three of the areas showing negative growth rates are also those areas with the lowest population bases.

Municipalities

Of British Columbia's 157 municipalities for which population was estimated, 118 had positive population growth between 2005 and 2006. 38 municipalities had negative population growth and one showed no change. The City of Surrey had the largest absolute gain in population at 6,486 individuals. The City of Vancouver had the second largest gain of 4,700 people.

	2005-06 Pop Change		2006
Municipality	%	Persons	Population
Surrey, C	1.64	6,486	402,150
Vancouver, C	0.81	4,700	587,891
Kelowna, C	3.01	3,298	112,775
Langley, Township DM	2.50	2,424	99,537
Chilliwack, C	2.99	2,108	72,621
Maple Ridge, DM	2.76	2,035	75,783
Penticton, C	4.88	1,612	34,669
Port Moody, C	5.17	1,481	30,120
Kamloops, C	1.65	1,361	84,064
Nanaimo, C	1.67	1,333	80,949

In percentage terms, the villages of Radium Hot Springs (13.3%), Clinton (12.9%), Valemont (11%) and Tumbler Ridge District Municipality (6.8%) had the highest population growth rates.

	2005-06 Pop Change		2006
Municipality	%	Persons	Population
Oak Bay, DM	-1.38	-252	18,059
Trail, C	-2.46	-195	7,744
White Rock, C	-0.78	-154	19,545
Coquitlam, C	-0.11	-132	119,319
Kitimat, DM	-0.72	-76	10,510
Rossland, C	-1.91	-71	3,653
Central Saanich, DM	-0.30	-51	16,768
Fruitvale, VL	-2.11	-44	2,039
Grand Forks, C	-0.98	-41	4,159
New Hazelton, DM	-3.83	-29	729

The District Municipality of Oak Bay and the City of Trail lost the largest amount of population over the 2005 to 2006 period. Oak Bay had 252 less estimated residents at the end of the period and Trail had 195 less. Those municipalities experiencing the largest loss in percentage terms were New Hazelton (-3.82%), Port Edwards (-3.67%) and Stewart (-3.59%). The total population of each of these three areas, however, was less than 1,000 individuals. Of the 38 municipalities that lost population, 29 had populations below 5,000.

Municipal estimates are calculated by the Population Section of BC Stats through a regional estimation model that has been developed and refined over the past 25 years. This model, which uses indicators of population change such as residential electrical connections and telephone line location information, has enabled BC Stats to produce relatively accurate population estimates without the high cost of conducting a census.

Knowledge of population growth and where it occurs is vital to the planning process. For this reason the Municipal and Regional District Estimates are an important tool for provincial and local governments in assessing current and future community needs.

The population estimates for 1996 to 2006 (as well as the estimates for 1976–1995) are available on the BC Stats web site:
http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca

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Release: December 2006

British Columbia Municipal and Regional District Population Estimates

Name	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2005-06 % Chg.
Alberni-Clayoquot	**31,664**	**31,686**	**31,878**	**32,312**	**32,688**	**33,063**	**1.15**
Port Alberni (C) *	18,516	18,486	18,484	18,610	18,686	18,790	0.56
Tofino (DM)	1,530	1,565	1,675	1,716	1,846	1,906	3.25
Ucluelet (DM)	1,627	1,634	1,675	1,852	1,899	1,978	4.16
Bulkley-Nechako	**42,636**	**42,604**	**42,647**	**43,822**	**43,940**	**44,147**	**0.47**
Burns Lake (VL)	2,027	2,022	2,017	2,035	2,018	2,012	-0.30
Fort St. James (DM)	2,011	1,989	1,991	2,004	2,003	1,976	-1.35
Fraser Lake (VL)	1,323	1,316	1,284	1,369	1,366	1,354	-0.88
Granisle (VL)	368	366	354	367	353	352	-0.28
Houston (DM)	3,733	3,613	3,600	3,849	3,732	3,796	1.71
Smithers (T)	5,651	5,675	5,589	5,652	5,508	5,575	1.22
Telkwa (VL) *	1,431	1,423	1,430	1,421	1,439	1,443	0.28
Vanderhoof (DM)	4,582	4,592	4,579	4,662	4,727	4,799	1.52
Capital	**340,039**	**342,148**	**344,818**	**347,189**	**351,425**	**353,710**	**0.65**
Central Saanich (DM)	16,018	16,153	16,312	16,495	16,819	16,768	-0.30
Colwood (C)	14,345	14,520	14,637	14,821	15,122	15,470	2.30
Esquimalt (DM)	16,834	16,913	16,945	17,078	17,186	17,407	1.27
Highlands (DM)	1,747	1,772	1,798	1,967	2,114	2,130	0.76
Langford (DM)	19,660	20,039	20,516	20,879	21,616	22,229	2.84
Metchosin (DM)	5,070	5,105	5,218	5,258	5,300	5,312	0.23
North Saanich (DM)	10,690	10,959	11,072	11,132	11,273	11,258	-0.13
Oak Bay (DM)	18,573	18,535	18,456	18,406	18,311	18,059	-1.38
Saanich (DM)	108,179	108,620	109,598	109,873	110,382	110,737	0.32
Sidney (T)	11,404	11,420	11,529	11,525	11,661	11,649	-0.10
Sooke (DM) *	9,116	9,245	9,432	9,756	10,116	10,436	3.16
Victoria (C)	77,362	77,472	77,433	77,769	78,296	78,659	0.46
View Royal (T)	7,587	7,780	7,907	7,970	8,255	8,375	1.45
Cariboo	**68,510**	**68,472**	**68,600**	**69,837**	**70,321**	**70,849**	**0.75**
100 Mile House (DM)	1,815	1,819	1,814	1,828	1,826	1,829	0.16
Quesnel (C) *	10,481	10,407	10,337	10,445	10,485	10,561	0.72
Wells (DM) *	245	246	241	262	248	246	-0.81
Williams Lake (C) *	11,639	11,625	11,578	11,865	11,871	11,961	0.76
Central Coast	**3,943**	**3,952**	**3,902**	**3,866**	**3,904**	**3,860**	**-1.13**
Central Kootenay	**59,506**	**59,731**	**60,209**	**59,876**	**60,233**	**60,681**	**0.69**
Castlegar (C)	7,307	7,304	7,266	7,774	7,820	7,863	0.55
Creston (T)	5,004	4,995	5,060	5,053	5,097	5,201	2.04
Kaslo (VL)	1,077	1,059	1,068	1,071	1,075	1,087	1.12
Nakusp (VL)	1,772	1,783	1,789	1,789	1,779	1,800	1.18
Nelson (C)	9,703	9,641	9,778	9,810	9,796	9,923	1.30
New Denver (VL)	561	557	561	550	549	556	1.28
Salmo (VL)	1,169	1,178	1,157	1,140	1,133	1,129	-0.35
Silverton (VL)	232	229	235	231	230	224	-2.61
Slocan (VL)	351	349	363	361	359	353	-1.67
Central Okanagan	**154,193**	**156,925**	**160,720**	**162,988**	**167,917**	**173,026**	**3.04**
Kelowna (C)	100,495	102,294	104,837	105,902	109,477	112,775	3.01
Lake Country (DM)	9,672	9,743	9,919	10,091	10,366	10,668	2.91
Peachland (DM)	4,857	4,986	5,053	5,090	5,230	5,389	2.66
Columbia-Shuswap	**50,321**	**50,843**	**51,306**	**52,367**	**53,238**	**54,520**	**2.41**
Golden (T)	4,196	4,299	4,340	4,385	4,398	4,498	2.27
Revelstoke (C) *	7,827	7,913	7,888	7,932	7,963	8,029	0.83
Salmon Arm (DM)	15,873	15,921	16,199	16,510	16,798	17,150	2.10
Sicamous (DM)	2,839	2,886	2,903	3,022	3,043	3,192	4.90
Comox-Strathcona	**100,326**	**100,820**	**101,953**	**103,268**	**106,313**	**107,312**	**1.90**
Campbell River (DM)	29,700	29,683	30,023	30,250	30,806	31,444	2.07
Comox (T) *	11,660	11,828	12,118	12,426	12,833	13,008	1.36

Name	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2005-06 % Chg.
Courtenay (C)*	19,103	19,347	20,618	21,124	21,798	22,533	3.37
Cumberland (VL)	2,732	2,731	2,785	2,768	2,817	2,881	2.27
Gold River (VL)	1,418	1,368	1,358	1,436	1,356	1,389	2.43
Sayward (VL)	396	398	403	404	407	410	0.74
Tahsis (VL)	626	584	567	594	577	562	-2.60
Zeballos (VL)	234	227	231	232	228	231	1.32
Cowichan Valley	**75,139**	**75,668**	**76,866**	**77,545**	**78,793**	**80,296**	**1.91**
Duncan (C)	4,903	4,844	4,886	4,884	4,898	5,032	2.74
Ladysmith (T)*	6,874	6,954	7,067	7,130	7,291	7,460	2.32
Lake Cowichan (T)	2,950	2,977	2,967	2,986	3,029	3,118	2.94
North Cowichan (DM)	27,290	27,519	27,742	28,140	28,516	29,118	2.11
East Kootenay	**58,747**	**59,416**	**60,146**	**60,958**	**61,854**	**63,189**	**2.13**
Canal Flats (VL) ††	--	--	--	673	680	700	2.94
Cranbrook (C)*	19,281	19,587	19,592	19,660	19,771	20,102	1.67
Elkford (DM)	2,702	2,698	2,707	2,683	2,670	2,683	0.49
Fernie (C)	4,812	4,898	4,908	5,054	5,126	5,168	0.82
Invermere (DM) *	2,983	3,017	3,126	3,149	3,256	3,470	6.57
Kimberley (C)	6,767	6,774	6,802	6,946	7,048	7,147	1.40
Radium Hot Springs (VL)	608	643	700	749	813	921	13.28
Sparwood (DM)	3,978	4,007	4,008	3,998	3,972	4,013	1.03
Fraser Valley	**247,916**	**251,151**	**254,276**	**261,171**	**265,016**	**268,972**	**1.49**
Abbotsford (C)	120,500	122,596	123,566	127,192	128,088	128,940	0.67
Chilliwack (C)	65,671	66,327	67,530	69,193	70,513	72,621	2.99
Harrison Hot Springs (VL)	1,402	1,451	1,508	1,547	1,595	1,609	0.88
Hope (DM)	6,455	6,473	6,519	6,575	6,590	6,667	1.17
Kent (DM)	5,141	5,187	5,278	5,525	5,679	5,756	1.36
Mission (DM)	32,638	32,876	33,344	34,061	34,738	35,262	1.51
Fraser-Fort George	**99,479**	**99,324**	**100,602**	**102,215**	**101,601**	**101,881**	**0.28**
Mackenzie (DM)	5,433	5,437	5,389	5,458	5,453	5,452	-0.02
McBride (VL)	742	733	725	743	752	745	-0.93
Prince George (C)	75,568	75,286	76,643	77,827	77,151	77,343	0.25
Valemount (VL) *	1,247	1,265	1,249	1,247	1,250	1,388	11.04
Greater Vancouver	**2,073,662**	**2,095,092**	**2,114,633**	**2,132,260**	**2,158,699**	**2,180,737**	**1.02**
Anmore (VL)	1,403	1,443	1,517	1,553	1,673	1,728	3.29
Belcarra (VL)	712	720	726	715	722	727	0.69
Bowen Island (IM) *	3,085	3,166	3,288	3,353	3,424	3,501	2.25
Burnaby (C)	202,419	202,478	202,814	203,244	204,551	205,477	0.45
Coquitlam (C)	117,814	119,380	120,083	119,159	119,451	119,319	-0.11
Delta (DM)	101,178	101,481	101,948	102,114	102,642	102,939	0.29
Langley (C)	24,673	24,685	24,924	24,982	25,712	25,789	0.30
Langley, Township of (DM)	90,685	91,146	92,609	94,776	97,113	99,537	2.50
Lions Bay (VL)	1,439	1,429	1,438	1,421	1,421	1,418	-0.21
Maple Ridge (DM)	65,922	67,777	69,438	71,037	73,748	75,783	2.76
New Westminster (C)	57,044	57,241	57,924	57,892	57,572	57,645	0.13
North Vancouver (DM)	85,905	86,138	87,014	86,868	87,072	87,518	0.51
North Vancouver (C)	46,236	46,977	46,496	46,831	48,037	49,248	2.52
Pitt Meadows (DM)	15,311	15,645	15,716	16,143	16,780	17,532	4.48
Port Coquitlam (C)	53,497	54,841	55,164	55,525	55,666	55,712	0.08
Port Moody (C)	24,854	25,274	25,884	26,849	28,639	30,120	5.17
Richmond (C)	171,517	172,547	173,629	174,364	175,791	176,599	0.46
Surrey (C)	363,004	372,581	379,560	387,162	395,664	402,150	1.64
Vancouver (C)	569,473	572,089	576,232	579,717	583,191	587,891	0.81
West Vancouver (DM)	43,229	43,290	43,454	43,356	44,143	44,272	0.29
White Rock (C)	19,047	19,153	19,056	19,370	19,699	19,545	-0.78

British Columbia Municipal and Regional District Population Estimates

Name	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2005-06 % Chg.
Kitimat-Stikine	**42,662**	**42,501**	**42,669**	**43,043**	**42,912**	**42,927**	**0.03**
Hazelton (VL)	360	362	363	355	341	362	6.16
Kitimat (DM)	10,733	10,639	10,575	10,725	10,586	10,510	-0.72
New Hazelton (DM)	783	790	770	765	758	729	-3.83
Stewart (DM)	690	698	710	717	695	670	-3.60
Terrace (C)	12,639	12,525	12,542	12,599	12,554	12,660	0.84
Kootenay-Boundary	**33,234**	**33,277**	**33,271**	**32,900**	**33,177**	**32,864**	**-0.94**
Fruitvale (VL) *	2,114	2,086	2,113	2,062	2,083	2,039	-2.11
Grand Forks (C)	4,230	4,164	4,169	4,184	4,200	4,159	-0.98
Greenwood (C)	695	688	675	666	668	656	-1.80
Midway (VL)	666	656	653	641	630	629	-0.16
Montrose (VL)	1,114	1,115	1,113	1,090	1,086	1,088	0.18
Rossland (C) *	3,804	3,775	3,765	3,690	3,724	3,653	-1.91
Trail (C) *	7,905	7,982	7,948	7,891	7,939	7,744	-2.46
Warfield (VL)	1,815	1,811	1,775	1,763	1,762	1,766	0.23
Mount Waddington	**13,683**	**13,585**	**13,481**	**13,802**	**13,888**	**13,862**	**-0.19**
Alert Bay (VL)	608	622	616	617	611	597	-2.29
Port Alice (VL)	1,175	1,171	1,128	1,206	1,129	1,131	0.27
Port Hardy (DM)	4,774	4,726	4,613	4,798	4,596	4,585	-0.24
Port McNeill (T)	2,944	2,910	2,886	2,908	2,927	2,929	0.07
Nanaimo	**132,555**	**134,058**	**136,315**	**137,947**	**141,052**	**143,791**	**1.93**
Lantzville (DM) ††	--	--	3,538	3,783	3,819	3,807	-0.31
Nanaimo (C)	76,185	76,784	77,786	78,460	79,616	80,949	1.67
Parksville (C)	10,773	10,866	11,081	11,275	11,707	12,081	3.19
Qualicum Beach (T) *	7,224	7,292	7,384	7,403	8,806	8,899	1.06
North Okanagan	**76,426**	**77,216**	**77,971**	**79,114**	**80,493**	**81,888**	**1.73**
Armstrong (C)	4,442	4,497	4,508	4,534	4,554	4,531	-0.51
Coldstream (DM)	9,504	9,622	9,817	9,922	10,101	10,320	2.17
Enderby (C)	2,941	2,974	3,000	3,023	3,072	3,134	2.02
Lumby (VL)	1,689	1,698	1,683	1,703	1,738	1,766	1.61
Spallumcheen (DM)	5,358	5,387	5,412	5,648	5,706	5,729	0.40
Vernon (C) *	34,957	35,158	35,554	35,643	36,228	36,785	1.54
Northern Rockies	**6,969**	**6,004**	**6,127**	**6,451**	**6,605**	**6,644**	**0.59**
Fort Nelson (T)	4,371	4,405	4,443	4,706	4,822	4,871	1.02
Okanagan-Similkameen	**79,985**	**80,663**	**80,998**	**81,670**	**83,036**	**84,914**	**2.26**
Keremeos (VL)	1,249	1,274	1,283	1,283	1,315	1,369	4.11
Oliver (T)	4,409	4,441	4,426	4,378	4,379	4,369	-0.23
Osoyoos (T)	4,483	4,507	4,627	4,611	4,800	4,963	3.40
Penticton (C)	32,340	32,531	32,912	32,955	33,057	34,669	4.88
Princeton (T)	2,724	2,741	2,753	2,691	2,687	2,687	0.00
Summerland (DM)	11,181	11,225	11,332	11,285	11,404	11,443	0.34
Peace River	**57,479**	**58,304**	**58,705**	**62,096**	**62,961**	**64,272**	**2.08**
Chetwynd (DM)	2,704	2,684	2,576	2,729	2,770	2,866	3.47
Dawson Creek (C)	11,224	11,179	11,175	11,320	11,393	11,615	1.95
Fort St. John (C)	16,734	16,924	16,959	17,326	17,779	18,270	2.76
Hudson's Hope (DM)	1,084	1,071	1,088	1,159	1,157	1,159	0.17
Pouce Coupe (VL)	869	861	862	864	887	910	2.59
Taylor (DM)	1,193	1,234	1,275	1,291	1,346	1,380	2.53
Tumbler Ridge (DM)	1,932	2,418	2,492	2,464	2,526	2,698	6.81
Powell River	**20,627**	**20,664**	**20,737**	**20,869**	**21,074**	**21,364**	**1.38**
Powell River (DM)	13,550	13,557	13,590	13,716	13,830	14,035	1.48
Sechelt Ind Gov Dist (IGD)**	38	38	38	39	38	38	0.00
Skeena-Queen Charlotte	**22,639**	**22,473**	**22,312**	**22,508**	**22,462**	**22,722**	**1.16**
Masset (VL)	966	955	965	967	967	982	1.55
Port Clements (VL)	538	531	527	534	533	517	-3.00
Port Edward (DM)	688	671	667	659	653	629	-3.68
Prince Rupert (C)	15,282	15,135	14,962	15,060	14,972	15,281	2.06
Village of Queen Charlotte (V	--	--	--	--	--	1,042	

Name	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2005-06 % Chg.
Squamish-Lillooet	**34,533**	**35,067**	**35,801**	**36,642**	**36,776**	**37,750**	**2.65**
Lillooet (DM)	2,659	2,793	2,755	2,821	2,755	2,779	0.87
Pemberton (VL) *	1,708	1,872	2,025	2,210	2,517	2,563	1.83
Squamish (DM)	14,871	14,920	15,159	15,431	15,724	16,199	3.02
Whistler (DM)	9,293	9,502	9,750	9,828	9,360	9,595	2.51
Stikine	**1,374**	**1,330**	**1,376**	**1,385**	**1,377**	**1,367**	**-0.73**
Sunshine Coast	**26,713**	**27,018**	**27,427**	**27,740**	**28,592**	**29,262**	**2.34**
Gibsons (T)	4,076	4,111	4,190	4,216	4,349	4,458	2.51
Sechelt (DM)	8,113	8,240	8,395	8,511	8,899	9,224	3.65
Sechelt Ind Gov Dist (IGD)**	80	833	828	830	850	862	1.41
Thompson-Nicola	**124,498**	**126,365**	**128,926**	**127,534**	**128,777**	**130,933**	**1.67**
Ashcroft (VL)	1,866	1,861	1,849	1,868	1,836	1,825	-0.60
Cache Creek (VL)	1,102	1,105	1,056	1,145	1,134	1,115	-1.68
Chase (VL) *	2,567	2,544	2,553	2,552	2,568	2,600	1.25
Clinton (VL) *	648	649	664	672	654	739	13.00
Kamloops (C) *	80,656	81,259	81,398	81,916	82,703	84,064	1.65
Logan Lake (DM)	2,280	2,286	2,318	2,321	2,313	2,307	-0.26
Lytton (VL)	333	339	333	334	336	330	-1.79
Merritt (C)	7,396	7,408	7,418	7,516	7,561	7,595	0.45
British Columbia	**4,078,447**	**4,116,413**	**4,166,370**	**4,203,316**	**4,267,833**	**4,310,462**	**1.24**

Source
Population Section, BC Stats, Service BC,
Ministry of Labour and Citizens' Services,
Government of British Columbia
December 2006

Notes:
All figures correspond to municipal boundaries as of July 1st of the year stated.
All figures are as of July 1st of the year stated.

C = City, T = Town, VL = Village, DM = District Municipality, IM= Island Municipality, IGD = Indian Government District, DR=Development Region.

** Denotes a boundary change between 2001 and 2006.*
***Sechelt Indian Government District is split between Sunshine Coast and Powell River Regional Districts.*

†† Base population figures for new incorporations are supplied by the Ministry of Community Services.

British Columbia Development Region	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2005-06 % Chg.
Vancouver Island/Coast	717,966	722,581	729,649	736,768	747,847	756,957	1.22
Mainland/Southwest	2,382,824	2,408,325	2,432,137	2,457,813	2,489,082	2,516,721	1.11
Thompson-Okanagan	485,423	491,011	496,920	503,673	513,461	525,281	2.30
Kootenay	151,487	152,424	153,626	153,734	155,264	156,684	0.91
Cariboo	167,989	167,796	169,202	172,052	171,922	172,730	0.47
North Coast	65,301	64,974	64,981	65,551	65,374	65,649	0.42
Nechako	44,009	43,994	44,023	45,177	45,317	45,514	0.43
Northeast	63,448	64,308	64,832	68,547	69,566	70,916	1.94
British Columbia Total	**4,078,447**	**4,116,413**	**4,166,370**	**4,203,316**	**4,267,833**	**4,310,462**	**1.24**

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This is a practical statistical course that covers the basic aspects of survey data analysis. This course will appeal to novice analysts and those who are required to interpret statistical findings. It provides an overview of basic types of research as well as analytical requirements. This is followed by a short treatment of survey sampling and types of data. Some of the analytical techniques that will be covered include cross tabulations, chi-square and some aspects of linear regression. The workshop includes a hands on data analysis exercise and a discussion on the principles for presenting results.

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- Grouping and graphic data
- Analytical techniques
- Interpreting and presenting analytical results

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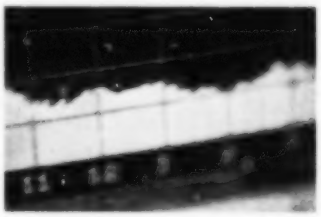

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January 5, 2007
Issue 07-01

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BC at a glance . . .

POPULATION (thousands)	Oct 1/06	% change on one year ago
BC	4,327.4	1.2
Canada	32,730.2	1.0
GDP and INCOME (Revised Nov 8)		
(BC - *at market prices*)	2005	% change on one year ago
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ($ millions)	168,855	7.2
GDP ($ 1997 millions)	145,501	3.7
GDP ($ 1997 *per Capita*)	34,173	2.4
Personal Disposable Income ($ 1997 *per Capita*)	20,983	2.4
TRADE ($ millions, seasonally adjusted)		% change on prev. month
Manufacturing Shipments - Oct	3,522	0.9
Merchandise Exports - Oct	2,844	2.1
Retail Sales - Oct	4,483	-0.1
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	% change on one year ago	12-month avg % change
(all items - Nov 2006)		
BC	1.5	1.7
Vancouver	2.1	1.8
Victoria	0.9	1.6
Canada	1.4	2.1
LABOUR FORCE (thousands)	Dec '06	% change on prev. month
(seasonally adjusted)		
Labour Force - BC	2,341	0.8
Employed - BC	2,218	0.4
Unemployed - BC	123	7.4
		Nov '06
Unemployment Rate - BC (percent)	5.2	4.9
Unemployment Rate - Canada (percent)	6.1	6.3
INTEREST RATES (percent)	Jan 3/07	Jan 4/06
Prime Business Rate	6.00	5.00
Conventional Mortgages - 1 year	6.30	5.80
- 5 year	6.45	6.30
US/CANADA EXCHANGE RATE	Jan 3/07	Jan 4/06
(avg. noon spot rate) Cdn $	1.1699	1.1515
US $ (*reciprocal of the closing rate*)	0.8530	0.8721
AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE RATE	Dec '06	% change on one year ago
(industrial aggregate - dollars)		
BC	739.16	4.6
Canada	731.18	2.7

SOURCES:

Population, Gross Domestic Product, Trade, Prices, Labour Force, Wage Rate } Statistics Canada

Interest Rates, Exchange Rates: Bank of Canada Weekly Financial Statistics

For latest Weekly Financial Statistics see www.bankofcanada.ca

Population Estimates
for Regions and Municipalitites, 2006

Released Friday, December 15th.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/pop/estspop.asp

Small Business Quarterly (FREE)

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www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/pubs/pr_sbq.asp

A Guide to the BC Economy and Labour Market

The third edition of the *Guide* is now available. The *Guide* is a useful resource which provides an overview of the provincial economy and the characteristics of its workforce. Written by Lillian Hallin of BC Stats, it focuses on provincial industries with an emphasis on their human resource side. Economic terms are explained and examples provided, so that a background in economics is not needed to understand the material. The *Guide* also provides an historical perspective on how the provincial economy has developed, as well as what it may look like in the future.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/pubs/econ_gui.asp

Released this week by BC STATS

- Labour Force Statistics, December 2006

Next week

- Earnings & Employment Trends, December 2006
- Tourism Sector Monitor, December 2006

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